

Borough of Wrexham



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1945

T. P. EDWARDS,

M.D., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Cantab.)

F. G. DAVIES,

M.R.S.I., A.M.I.S.E.



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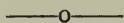
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*To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.*



Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my **Twenty-third Annual Report** on the Health and Vital Statistics for the Borough of Wrexham during the year 1945. The Registrar-General has supplied us with the figure of 25,670 population as compared with 25,970 for the year 1944.

The number of notifications of infectious disease has increased owing to a large increase in the incidence of Measles. Otherwise, every infectious disease, with the exception of Pneumonia, shows a satisfactory improvement. No doubt satisfaction will be felt at the continued reduction of cases of Diphtheria and no doubt the continued campaign of immunisation is showing its effect.

One need hardly state that the general health conditions, the purity of the milk supply and a satisfactory meat supply continue to be the aim of the Health Department. The milk supply, especially for school children continues to be satisfactory in quality.

I would like to pay a tribute to the excellent work done by the sanitary, nursing, and clerical staff during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. P. EDWARDS,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Alderman CYRIL O. JONES, B.A.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor WILLIAM MORRIS.

Alderman BLEW.	Councillor HICKMAN.
Alderman THOMAS.	Councillor HACKETT.
Alderman EMYR WILLIAMS.	Councillor CATHERINE JONES.
Alderman BREEZE.	Councillor McMAHON.
Councillor Mrs. LINDA DAVIES.	Councillor OGDEN.
Councillor GARFIELD DAVIES.	Councillor STABLER.
Councillor DUTTON.	Councillor THOMAS.
Councillor FITZPATRICK.	Councillor WALLIS.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor N. D. Bird).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Alderman CYRIL O. JONES, B.A.

Vice-Chairman—Alderman BREEZE.

*The Members of the Health Committee with the following
co-opted Members :—*

Mrs. CHALLONER.	Mrs. TAYLOR.
Mrs. J. W. EDWARDS.	Mrs. EMYR WILLIAMS.
Mrs. GRIFFITHS.	Mrs. WOLFENDEN.
Mrs. CYRIL JONES.	Mrs. MANFORD JONES and
Mrs. ERIC JONES.	Dr. R. S. BROCK (<i>Consultative</i>).
Mrs. PICKEN.	

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	2,916
Population (mid 1945) (Registrar-General's estimate)....	25,670
Rateable Value of the Borough (March, 1946)....	£165,809
Product of a Penny Rate	£649/1/1.72d.
Corporation Houses....	1,775

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Population 25,670 (Mid 1945).
(Registrar-General's estimate).

Births.

	<i>M.</i>		<i>F.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	223	....	211	....	434
Live Births—Illegitimate	44	....	35	....	79
Total	267	....	246	....	513

Birth Rate 19.98 England and Wales 16.1

Stillbirths.

	<i>M.</i>		<i>F.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	11	....	8	....	19
Illegitimate	1	....	1	....	2
Total	12	....	9	....	21

Rate of Stillbirths per 1,000 population.... 0.8

Rate of Stillbirths per 1,000 population (England & Wales) 0.46

Rate of Stillbirths per 1,000 total (live and still) births.... 39.3

Deaths.

	<i>Male.</i>		<i>Female.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	172	....	165	....	337
Death Rate	13.1	England and Wales			11.4

Maternal Mortality.

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of childbirth:—

1. From Sepsis....	—
2. From Other Causes	—
	Nil

RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL (Live and Still Births).

	<i>Wrexham.</i>		<i>England and Wales.</i>
Puerperal Sepsis....	0.0	....	0.49
Other Causes....	0.0	....	1.30
Total	0.0	....	1.79

Infantile Mortality.

(Deaths of Infants under one year of age).

	<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	20	....	6	....	26
Illegitimate	8	....	4	....	12
Total	28	....	10	....	38

Infantile Mortality Rate.

Legitimate

59.9

Illegitimate....

152.0

Total

76.0

England & Wales, 46.0).

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)....	4

Births.

During the year there were 513 births, of which 267 were males and 246 females. The total number is a decrease of 14 over 1944. Of these births, 434 were legitimate and 79 were illegitimate. The legitimate births have decreased by 32 and the illegitimate births have increased by 18.

The Birth Rate for the previous years and for 1945 was as follows:—

1936	14.4	1941	16.8
1937	15.2	1942	17.5
1938	16.9	1943	20.8
1939	11.4	1944	20.3
1940	17.0	1945	19.98

Stillbirths,

During the year, there were 21 Stillbirths. Of these 12 were males and 9 females. 1 male and 1 female being illegitimate.

The rate is 0.8 per 1,000 population as compared with 0.46 for England and Wales. The rate of stillbirths per thousand live and stillbirths is 29.3 as compared with 47.0 for 1944.

Deaths.

During the year, the total number of deaths registered as having occurred in the Borough was 642. From this number, 311 persons who were non-resident must be deducted, but 6 Borough residents who died outside the Borough have to be added. This makes a total number of deaths in respect of the Borough of 337 as compared with 324 in 1944.

Death Rate.

Taking the figure of 337 as representing the actual number of deaths, this gives a death rate of 13.1 as compared with 12.5 in 1944.

The death rate for the previous years and the year 1945 is as follows:—

1936	14.9	1941	13.8
1937	15.2	1942	11.4
1938	15.5	1943	13.6
1939	15.5	1944	12.5
1940	15.2	1945	13.1

The following table gives the causes of death:—

<i>Causes.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1.—Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2.—Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3	—	3
3.—Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4.—Whooping Cough	1	—	1
5.—Diphtheria	—	—	—
6.—Respiratory Tuberculosis	6	6	12
7.—Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	—	2
8.—Syphilis	1	—	1
9.—Influenza	1	1	2
10.—Measles	1	—	1
11.—Acute encephalitis	—	1	1
12.—Cancer	14	30	44
13.—Diabetes	1	2	3
14.—Cerebral Haemorrhage	13	21	34
15.—Heart Disease	42	47	89
16.—Other circulatory diseases	3	1	4
17.—Bronchitis	12	10	22
18.—Pneumonia (allforms)	10	12	22
19.—Other respiratory diseases	4	2	6
20.—Peptic Ulcer	3	—	3
21.—Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2	2	4
22.—Appendicitis	—	—	—
23.—Other digestive diseases	3	5	8
24.—Nephritis	5	2	7
25.—Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
26.—Other maternal causes	—	—	—
27.—Premature Birth	6	2	8
28.—Congenital causes	11	1	12
29.—Suicide	3	2	5
30.—Road Traffic Accidents	1	—	1
31.—Other violent causes	7	5	12
32.—All other causes	17	13	30
Totals	172	165	337

CANCER.

During the year, there were 44 deaths, 14 being males and 30 females. The number for the previous year was 49 so that there has been a decrease of 5 cases. The ratio of Cancer deaths to total deaths is 1:7.2 as compared with 1:6.6 in 1944, and the Cancer death rate per thousand population is 1.8 as compared with 1.9 in 1944.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 38, as compared with 31 for 1944. Of these 26 were legitimate and 12 illegitimate. Twenty-eight were males of which 20 were legitimate and 10 females, 6 being legitimate. Of the 38 infant deaths, 19 were neo-natal.

In respect of the number of deaths from diarrhoea under 2 years of age there were 4 deaths—2 males and 2 females, as compared with 5 in 1944.

It will be seen that the number of children who died under the age of one year has increased by 7, and of these 6 were in respect of illegitimate children.

The causes of death are shown in the following table:—

Prematurity.....	8
Pneumonia	9
Congenital Causes	5
Marasmus	3
Convulsions	3
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	1
Gastro-enteritis.....	2
Other causes	7
Total.....	38

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the year reached a figure of 76.0 as compared with 58.8 in 1944.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

It is satisfactory to note that there has been no death from puerperal causes during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the year, 607 cases of Infectious Disease were notified to the Public Health Department as against 295 in 1944.

There was a decrease of 39 in the notification of Scarlet Fever and a diminution of 20 in the number of cases of Diphtheria. There has been an increase of 26 in the cases of Pneumonia. Erysipelas has diminished from 5 to 1.

The main increase in notifiable cases has been from Measles, from which disease there were 402 notifications, as compared with 28 in 1944 and 426 in 1943. This is an interesting situation in that it is a well-known fact in epidemiology that epidemics of Measles occur in 92 weeks' period so that approximately this will indicate that a year of increased incidence will be followed by a year of diminished cases before the epidemic recurs.

The number of Whooping Cough notifications have decreased from 61 to 53.

Of all the notifiable diseases, there were 69 admissions to Hospital as compared with 143 in 1944. There was one death in Hospital of T.B. Meningitis which had been admitted with the diagnosis of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

(Excluding Tuberculosis).

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified.</i>	<i>Cases Admitted to Hospital.</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Smallpox	—	—	—
Diphtheria	21	21	—
Scarlet Fever	39	32	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	—	—
Pneumonia	75	—	22
Erysipelas	1	2	—
C.S.F.	6	6	3
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—
Measles	402	3	1
Whooping Cough	53	—	—
Totals	607	64	26

FEVER HOSPITAL STATEMENT FOR 1945—BOROUGH CASES.

Remaining in Hospital 31st December, 1944:—

Scarlet Fever	7
Diphtheria	3
Chickenpox....	1
Total	11

Admitted during the year 1945:—

Scarlet Fever....	30
Obs. Scarlet Fever....	2
Diphtheria	20
Tonsillitis....	4
C.S.F.	6
Obs. C.S.F.	1
T.B. Meningitis	1
Erysipelas	2
Measles	3
Total	69

Discharged during the year 1945:—

Scarlet Fever	37
Obs. Scarlet Fever	2
Diphtheria	23
Tonsillitis	4
C.S.F.	6
Obs. C.S.F.	1
Erysipelas	2
Measles	3
Chickenpox	1
Total	79

Remaining in Hospital 31st December, 1945 NIL

Deaths in Hospital:—

T.B. Meningitis	1
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Diphtheria.

During the year, 21 cases were notified and admitted to the Fever Hospital but one of these was found not to be suffering from Diphtheria. In addition to these there were 4 cases of Tonsillitis admitted for observation. It is satisfactory to note that there were no deaths during the year. There were 41 cases of Diphtheria admitted to Hospital in 1944, and 42 in 1943.

Of the 21 cases notified, 8 were between 5 and 10, and 11 were between 5 and 15, i.e., children of school age and there were only 3 cases of children under five. Six adolescents and adults were admitted and one of these was between the ages of 45 and 65:

For some two or three years now there has been a marked decrease in the number of cases of Diphtheria notified and also of those admitted to Hospital, and it is satisfactory to note that there have been no deaths for two years. No doubt the campaign of immunisation has a great deal to do with this diminished incidence and the diminution of cases has been one of the most remarkable features of modern epidemiology.

Two cases admitted to Hospital had been immunised some years previously. The following table shows the number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the last ten years, together with the number of deaths.

The case rate per thousand population is 0.8 as compared with 0.46 for England and Wales.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of cases notified.</i>	<i>No. of deaths.</i>
1936	181	6
1937	177	15
1938	74	8
1939	69	7
1940	111	5
1941	106	1
1942	60	3
1943	42	1
1944	41	—
1945	21	—

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Throughout the year, 418 cases of children under fifteen were immunised at the Clinic. Of these, 214 were under the age of 5 and 204 between 5 and 15. At the end of the year arrangements were being made for another campaign of immunisation at the Schools, and this took place in 1946. There does appear to be a better appreciation of the benefits of protection against Diphtheria by parents. A good deal of the credit for this can be put down to the efforts of the Health Visitors during their routine visits to the homes and their attendance at the various Maternity and Child Welfare clinics.

Towards the end of the year arrangements were made in accordance with regulations of the Welsh Board of Health for a card index system of each immunised child. This has been completed and is of course being kept up to date, and by this means we can always obtain strictly accurate figures as to the state of immunisation in the Borough.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified was 39, as compared with 94 in 1944 and 65 in 1943. Thirty cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital in addition to which two other cases were admitted for observation. There have been no deaths and, taken as a whole, the type of Scarlet Fever is a very mild one and it is very rare at the present day to find a typical text book rash. The case rate per thousand population is 1.5 as compared with 1.89 for England and Wales.

Measles.

402 cases of Measles were notified as compared with 28 in 1944. The case rate is 15.6 per thousand as compared with 11.67 for England and Wales. It is of interest to note that though there was a large increase in the number of cases notified only one of them was fatal.

Whooping Cough.

Fifty-three cases were notified as compared with 61 in 1944. The case rate per thousand population is 2.06 as compared with 1.64 for England and Wales. There was one death.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

In view of the large number of cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever that has occurred in our area during the last seven years, it is of interest to note that there were only 6 cases notified during the year. The case rate was 0.23 per thousand population as compared with 0.05 for England and Wales. Of these cases there were no deaths, but three deaths occurred during the year in cases which had not been notified and 2 of these deaths were in respect of non-civilian cases.

As a matter of interest it may be pointed out that in the Hospitals, such as the Emergency Hospitals, such cases are now treated with penicillin and those cases which had been treated with penicillin and subsequently admitted to the Fever Hospital and treated with sulphonamides did excellently. One of the cases which had been treated with penicillin was so acute that it could not be transferred to the Fever Hospital and died. At the present time there is an increasing tendency to use penicillin for all cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever but deaths still occur and there is no evidence that penicillin will be a certain cure for all cases.

Enteric Fever.

No cases of Enteric Fever of any kind were notified during the year. In 1944 two cases of Paratyphoid Fever were notified. The case rate per thousand for England and Wales is 0.01.

Erysipelas.

One case was notified during the year but two cases were admitted to the Fever Hospital. However, one of these was found not to be suffering from Erysipelas and no doubt for this reason was not notified. There were no deaths during the year. The case rate per thousand population was 0.04 as compared with 0.25 for England and Wales.

Pneumonia.

Seventy-five notifications of Pneumonia were received during the year as compared with 49 for 1944, and the case rate was 2.9 per thousand population as compared with 0.87 for England and Wales. Of these, 21 were under two years of age and 30 under

five years of age. Twenty-one of these cases occurred between the ages of 20 and 35, and only 7 cases occurred up to the age of 45. There were 22 deaths, 10 males and 12 females, being a death rate of 0.9.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No cases were notified during the year.

Smallpox.

No cases were notified during the year, though the Department was notified from time to time of contacts of non-civilian cases on board ship. These ships had come from India. All the cases notified to us as contacts were kept under observation and there has been no outbreak of the infection in our area. It is known that cases have been admitted to Hospital in the Wirral area and thus there is all the more reason why vaccination against Smallpox should be carried out. There seems to be at the present time a great indifference and no doubt were an epidemic of Smallpox to occur in our area the number of vaccinations would increase.

VACCINATION—STATISTICS FOR THE WREXHAM BOROUGH.

Number successfully vaccinated.....	189
Insusceptible	Nil
Number had Smallpox	Nil
Conscientious Objectors	325
Died unvaccinated	57
Postponed by medical certificate.....	69
Removed.....	104
Unaccounted for.....	155

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Eight cases were notified during the year as compared with 4 in 1944 and for the second year in succession there were no maternal deaths.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Forty-seven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. Of these 30 were males and 17 females and of the 30 males 16 were between the ages of 35 and 45. In addition, 11 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified. There were 14 deaths during the year, 12 of Pulmonary and 2 of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

(Arranged according to Age).

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	1	—
1—5	3	3	1	—
5—10	—	—	1	1
10—15	2	1	—	—
15—20	2	2	—	1
20—25	4	4	—	1
25—35	8	3	1	1
35—45	8	3	2	—
45—55	1	—	—	1
55—65	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—
Totals	30	17	6	5

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

(Arranged according to Age).

	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	plus Total
Disease	Year	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	1	—	2	8	3	2	4	—	1	21
Scarlet Fever	—	—	3	1	10	15	5	1	3	1	—	39
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	—	8
Pneumonia	10	11	1	5	3	6	1	6	21	4	4	75
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
C.S.F.	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	6
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Measles	27	29	45	47	68	165	6	7	7	—	1	402
Whooping Cough	6	11	6	12	6	11	1	—	—	—	—	53
Totals	44	51	56	65	89	205	18	19	42	8	6	607

Note—The above Table includes the following non-civilian cases:—

Diphtheria	4
Scarlet Fever	1
Pneumonia	14
Measles	5

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Number of Mothers with Babies attending the Maternity Centre	972
Total attendance of Mothers with Babies	8,963
Average sessional attendance (per baby)	9.2
Average sessional attendance	92.4
Number of Medical Consultations	1,221
Ante-natal Cases	229
Ante-natal Attendances	703
Post-natal Cases	9
Post-natal Attendances	10

It will be seen from the above Table that 972 mothers with babies made 8,963 attendances, or an average of 9.2 attendances per child.

In 1944, 975 mothers had made 9,689 attendances or an average of 9.9 per child. Thus, there has been a decrease of 3 in the number of mothers and babies attending and a diminution of 726 in the total attendances. In relation to this, it has to be borne in mind that there has been a decrease in the birth rate. The average sessional attendance has diminished but it is still above the 90 mark, and recent discussions in the Health Committee indicate that the number of attendances, especially on a Wednesday afternoon, is excessive. During the Wednesday afternoon sessions the attendances have often reached well over the 150 mark and it is thought that this attendance is too high to be satisfactorily dealt with by the staff available. In order to assist the two Health Visitors we have, on a Wednesday afternoon, engaged a lady to do the weighing of the babies, and the Clinic is also visited periodically by members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee who attend the Clinic working on a rota system.

Discussions have taken place and still are taking place with reference to the establishment of subsidiary centres in various parts of the Borough and the possibility of obtaining three extra Clinics is being discussed at the present time and no doubt one or two of these will be available before the end of 1946. Two of the premises in view have been, up to the present, requisitioned for military purposes, but there is a possibility that these will be available for our purpose during the next few weeks.

The number of medical consultations during the year has diminished to 1,221 as compared with 1,422 in 1944.

One of the most important functions of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic has been the Ante-Natal Clinic which is increasing its usefulness from year to year. During the year, however, 229 cases attended as compared with 255 in 1944, and these made 703 attendances as compared with 891 in 1944. In addition to these 9 Post-natal cases made 10 attendances.

During each session, a member of the Food Office staff distributes Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice and National Dried Milk, and this arrangement is very satisfactory. There is also a system of vouchers in force in respect of Cow and Gate, Ostermilk and Trufood.

The following table shows the number of visits paid during the year by the Health Visitors:—

(a) To expectant Mothers	First Visits	126
	Total Visits	322
(b) To Children under 1 year of age	First Visits	455
	Total Visits	2,428
(c) To Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years		2,483
	Total Visits	5,814

Number of Babies Registered with Medical Officer of Health.

No. of Births notified to Medical Officer of Health	773
Males	419
Females	354
Number of Illegitimate Babies	79
Number of Stillbirths	18
Number of Babies dying within a few hours	14
Number of deaths under twelve months	38
Infantile Mortality Rate	51.8

Health Visitors' Work at Homes and Centre.

Number of Breastfed Babies during first visit	471
Number of Bottled Babies during first visit	42
Number of Twins	6

Condition of Child.

Good	489
Bad	11
Indifferent	13

Condition of Mother.

Good	502
Bad	13
Indifferent	19

Cleanliness of Homes.

Clean	497
Fairly Clean	25
Dirty	12

Number of Infant Welfare Sessions at Centre	97
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Care of Premature Infants.

During the year, 21 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less were notified to us and use was made of the special equipment which has been obtained in relation to Circular 20/44. This equipment is issued on loan to midwives and returned to the Clinic. Seven premature babies were born at home and 14 in hospital. Of those born at home, 1 died within the first 24 hours and 5 were surviving at the end of one month.

Of those born in hospital, 3 died in the first twenty-four hours and 7 survived at the end of one month.

The Care of Illegitimate Children.

Discussions took place during the year in conjunction with the Counties of North Wales and the St. Asaph Diocesan Committee on the advisability of providing accommodation for illegitimate children. I have already referred to this in previous reports.

The discussion, in the initial stage, were commenced by the Borough and the Denbighshire County Council and extended their scope to include the whole of North Wales including Montgomeryshire. After a large amount of discussion, the conference failed to come to any satisfactory conclusion and it would appear that some of the Authorities have now withdrawn from this Conference and at the present moment it has reverted back to its initial status of discussion between the Borough and the Denbighshire County Council, but these have not yet been renewed, and it would appear that, if any progress is to be made, these discussions will have to be recommenced.

Maternity Homes.

Maternity cases are admitted to Croesnewydd Hospital and also to Gladwyn Maternity Home which is now being used by the County Council as a Maternity Home in place of Gerwyn Hall. Abnormal cases are admitted to Ruabon Maternity Hospital.

Discussions perennially occur in the Health Committee with reference to the provision of a Maternity Home for the Borough of Wrexham, but it is continually being pointed out that this is a matter for the County Council. It is understood that the County Council have certain properties in view, and it is certain that the housing shortage will not allow for the construction of a new Maternity Home at the present time.

During the year, 164 expectant mothers were sent to Maternity Homes. Of these, 117 were admitted to Croesnewydd Hospital, 15 to Ruabon Maternity Hospital and 32 to Gladwyn Maternity Home.

Home Helps.

Provision is made for home helps in cases of confinement and these are dealt with by the Health Department. The cases are also referred to the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee. Eleven cases were dealt with during the year, and no doubt were more Home Helps available a much wider use would be made of their services.

Domestic Helps.

Provisions is also made for Domestic Helps and three cases were provided. In the case of one of these, the wife is suffering from a chronic valvular disease of the heart and is not in a position to undertake any active duties.

Infant Life Protection (Children and Young Persons Act).

The duties under this Act are carried out by the two Health Visitors. There are, however, no cases to be kept under observation at the present time.

Adoption of Children (Section 7 of the Adoption of Children Regulation) Act, 1939.

- (a) Number of persons who gave notice under Section 7
(3) during the year 9
- (b) Total number of children in respect of whom notice
was given under Section 7 (3) during the year 9
- (c) Number of Children under Section 7 (3):—
 - (i) under supervision at the end of the year 4
 - (ii) who died during the year Nil.
 - (iii) on whom inquests were held during the year Nil.
- (d) Particulars of results of any proceedings taken during
the year Nil.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

Arrangements for treatment and examination of children suffering from Orthopaedic defects until they reach the age of five remain as in previous years. Such cases are referred to the Orthopaedic Clinic, 16, Grosvenor Road, where they are examined by the Specialist personnel of the Robert Jones and Dame Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry.

The following table shows the number of children under the age of five years treated during the year:—

<i>Admitted</i>		<i>Discharged</i>			
<i>On Books</i>	<i>during</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>during</i>	<i>On Books</i>	<i>Attend-</i>
1/1/45	1945	<i>Treated</i>	1945	31/12/45	<i>ances</i>
51	 19	 70	 19	 51	 62

LABORATORY WORK.

Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Conway.

This Laboratory has been established to help local authorities throughout the country in their investigation of Infectious Disease, Milk and Water Supplies in relation to Infectious Disease.

Contributions are paid by the Borough, and the laboratory provides all services free of charge as may be required. It also supplies Diphtheria Immunisation material. Bacteriological examination of Water Samples are undertaken, but any chemical work and milk supplies are examined only in reference to outbreaks of suspected Infectious Disease and not as a routine measure.

Plas Maelor Emergency Hospital.

This Hospital has a small laboratory in which milk samples are examined. Certain pathological work is also undertaken chiefly in reference to the Emergency Hospital.

The Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital.

The Pathological Department at the War Memorial Hospital is used in reference to sampling of milk under the administration of Dr. Grace of Chester.

Samples of milk are continually being sent to the Laboratory in Rhosymedre under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Samples are also sent for chemical analysis to the Public Analyst, Mr. Lowe, of Chester.

Isolation Hospital.

Swabs are examined for Diphtheria.

RAINFALL AND METEOROLOGY.

Temperature.

Average temperature for the year 1945 50.4°
 (Above normal—Warmest year since 1933).

	<i>Temperature.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Coldest month—January	33.4°	Very cold although 1940 and 1941 were colder.

Warmest month—July

Coldest day—26th January

Warmest day—11th August

Coldest night—26th January

Warmest night—12th September

Note.—February—December—A series of eleven months, each month with temperatures higher than normal (a record).

Frost.

Last Spring ground frost 17th June.

First Autumn ground frost 17th September.

No. of days on which there was ground frost 121

General.

Pressure higher than normal ; Strength of wind less than normal ; Humidity more than normal and consequently evaporation was less. Sunshine above normal.

Rainfall.

		<i>Remarks.</i>
Rainfall for the year	25.74"	Driest year since 1933.

Wettest month—October

Driest month—November	0.42"	Driest November on record since 1870. November has not been the driest month of year since 1920.
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Wettest day—20th May

No. of days with a rainfall of 0.01ins. or more

No. of days with a rainfall of 0.04ins. or more

Longest period of rain in any one day 21.8 hours.

Partial drought Twice.

Dry spell but not absolute drought Three times.

I am indebted to Mr. Ashmore of Grove Park Boys' Grammar School, for the above information which will no doubt be found to be of interest.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year, 13 samples of drinking water were sent for analysis. Of these, 9 were sent to Conway where they were examined by Dr. Hoare at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, and of these 8 were satisfactory and 1 unsatisfactory. In addition to this, 4 were sent to Mr. Lowe of Chester. Of these 3 were satisfactory and 1 unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples in the case of Dr. Hoare and of Mr. Lowe were taken at the same time and were in reference to samples from the tap at 1, Grosvenor Road. At the same time, samples were also taken by the Water Company and examined by Dr. Grace of Chester, whose report was excellent. This discrepancy between the results of various laboratories led to a certain amount of discussion between our Department and the Wrexham Water Company, but no satisfactory solution has been obtained.

The water is supplied by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Co., and is excellent in quality and quantity.

The Bacteriological examination reports are given in the following tables:—

WATER—BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORTS FROM PUBLIC ANALYST, CHESTER.

	Sample No. 1	Sample No. 2	Sample No. 3	Sample No. 4
Source	Tap Water from 1, Grosvenor Road	Tap Water from 1, Grosvenor Road	Tap Water from 1, Grosvenor Road	Tap Water from 1, Grosvenor Road
Date of Collection	15.1.45	26.1.45	8.2.45	8.2.45
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 3 days 20°C per c.c.	2	0	3	3
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 2 days 37°C per c.c.	1	1	0	0
Probable No. of Presumptive Coliform bacilli present per 100 c.c.	2	0	0	0
Faecal Coli (44°C MacConkey Test)	0	0	0	0
Remarks	Not up to Ministry of Health Health Standard but safe drinking water.			
	Ministry of Health Classification I. Highly Satisfactory.		Ministry of Health Classification I. Highly Satisfactory.	
			Ministry of Health Classification I. Highly Satisfactory.	

Drainage and Sewerage.

Milk Supplies.

Housing.

Arrangements were completed during the year for the purchase of an estate at Cefn Park, adjoining the Spring Lodge Estate, and it is intended to construct a large number of houses, some two or three thousand, on this estate.

Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) **Infectious Disease**—Motor Ambulance attached to the the Wrexham Fever Hospital.
- (b) **Non-Infectious and Accident Cases**—Motor Ambulances attached to the St. John Ambulance Brigade—Wrexham Branch.

The following report has been received from the Honorary Secretary of the Local Branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade:—

Number of cases carried	3,891	Mileage	26,350
Number of road accidents	79	Mileage	531
Total Cases	3,970	Mileage	26,881
Total No. of cases where first aid was rendered			130
Public Functions attended			357
Attendances at functions, No.			584
Total hours of duty given by voluntary men			14,527

Health Staff.

The Health Staff at the end of the year, remained the same as in 1944, with the exception that the Health Visitor/School Nurse was appointed full-time Health Visitor in order to concentrate on the various aspects of Maternity and Child Welfare. The matter arose when the question of immunisation against Diphtheria was discussed between the Borough and representatives of the Welsh Board of Health, and it was decided that the Health Visitors should pay more attention to urging the mothers to have their children immunised before their entrance to public elementary schools.

An Additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Bernard Jones, returned from service with H.M. Forces and re-commenced his duties in December.

At the end of the year, the Chief Sanitary Inspector was completing his term of office as he has been appointed to another post of a similar nature at Exeter.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my Second Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Inspectors' Department.

In December, Mr. Bernard Jones, Sanitary Inspector, returned from H.M. Forces but for eleven months of the year, owing to our inability to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Taylor's departure, we have been short staffed. This has thrown additional work on the district Sanitary Inspectors, a burden they have loyally borne.

The main feature of the year is the work done in connection with milk supplies, dairies, licenced premises and a case of food poisoning.

Our greatest difficulty in connection with milk has been those supplies coming into the Borough from outlying districts but the milk supplies generally shew distinct improvement on the previous year.

The Municipal Abattoir continues to absorb a great deal of the time of the inspectorate, but having regard to all the circumstances, I think we can look with a certain satisfaction on the work accomplished during the year.

I beg to express my appreciation, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee for your support and encouragement throughout the year, and I would like to record my gratitude to Dr. T. P. Edwards and other Officers of the Council and to my staff for their willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

F. GERALD DAVIES,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

General Summary.

Total No. of Inspections made	12,281
Total No. of Complaints received	291
Total No. of Notices served	359
Total No. of interviews with owners, etc.	658

Bakehouses.

Number in District (a) Factories (Mech.)	19
(b) ,, (Non-Mech.)	7
Number of underground bakehouses in district	0
Number of Inspections made	129
Number of Contraventions found	14
Number of Contraventions remedied	12
Number of Contraventions outstanding at end of year	2

Bed Bugs.

The method at present used in the destruction of Bed Bugs is spraying with Zaldecide after removal of skirting boards, etc., but at the time of preparing this report, solutions including the insecticide D.D.T. have just been made available and preliminary tests show that we have, at last, a medium which will go a long way towards solving our difficulties in the eradication of the Bed Bug.

Number of inspections made	152
Number of Council Houses:—	
(i) Found to be infested	31
(ii) Disinfested by this Department	31
Number of other houses:—	
(i) Found to be infested	9
(ii) Disinfested by this Department	9

Cesspools.

Number emptied, cleansed, etc.	156
-------------------------------------	-----

Cinemas, etc.

No. of Cinemas in the district	5
No. of inspections made	21
Ventilation of Sanitary Conveniences Improved	1
Sanitary Conveniences repaired	1

Closets.

No. of water closets repaired or reconstructed	21
No. of walls, etc., cleansed	6
No. of new flushing apparatuses provided, repaired or renewed	17
No. of new water closet pans or pedestals provided	18
No. provided with supply of water	5

Common Lodging Houses.

The standard of the Common Lodging Houses within the Borough is low and I hope the day is not far distant when the existing houses will be closed and "casuals" will be housed in a well equipped, properly managed, Municipal Lodging House.

No. registered at December 31st, 1945	4
No. of Inspections made	40
No. of contraventions found	1
No. of contraventions remedied	0
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	1
No. of registrations cancelled	0

Drains.

Drains constructed or re-constructed	14
Tests to new drains	15
Tests to existing drains	15
Repaired or cleansed	34
New Inspection Chambers	8
Additional Gullies	6
Sink waste pipes—repaired or renewed	10
Soil and ventilating pipes repaired or renewed	1

Factories (excluding Bakehouses).

No. of Factories in District (Mech.)	86
No. of Factories in District (Non-Mech.)	56
No. of inspections made	264
No. of contraventions found	21
No. of contraventions remedied	16
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	5

Fried Fish Shops.

No. of Fried Fish Shops in district	12
No. of inspections made	86
No. of contraventions found	8
No. of contraventions remedied	6
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	2

Ice Cream Vendors.

No. on Register	21
No. of inspections made	3

Infectious Diseases, Disinfections, etc.

No. of visits made	54
No. of rooms disinfected	129
No. of articles of clothing, etc., disinfected	20
No. of Library Books destroyed or disinfected	27

Offensive Trades.

No. of Businesses in district	6
No. of inspections made	3
No. of contraventions found	1
No. of contraventions remedied	1
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	0

Rodent Control.

No. of premises inspected	271
No. of premises found infested	77
No. of visits made	1,423
No. of rats killed in private premises	2,835
No. of rats killed in sewers	970
No. of rats killed in RiverGwenfro	388

Removal of Household Refuse.

No. of New Ashbins provided	37
----------------------------------	----

Sanitary Defects Remedied.**Dampness.**

No. of roofs renewed or repaired	36
No. of rainwater gutters and down spouts repaired	29
Yard surfaces repaired or relaid	14
Yard drainage improved	3

Interior Work.

No. of rooms cleansed and limewashed	9
No. of walls repaired	170
No. of ceilings repaired	50
No. of floors repaired	60
No. of chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	6
No. of firegrates repaired or renewed	29
No. of washing boilers repaired or renewed	6
Dampness remedied	41
Lighting remedied	9
Offensive accumulations removed	4

Smoke Abatement.

Smoke Abatement continues to be a major problem and hitherto our difficulties have been that the various "culprits" have mainly blamed the fuel they have been allocated by the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

Following my discussions with representatives of the Ministry of Fuel and Power, an engineer inspected and reported upon the plants in the Borough, and in the main, his report supports the

contention long been made by the Department, that the fault lies in the low standard of firing.

A demonstration stoker is due to tour the district and it is hoped that as a result some improvement will be effected.

There is an urgent need for the proper training of stokers—it is a skilled job—and I feel that this is an aspect of education which could with great benefit, be followed up by the Technical College.

No. of observations made	28
No. of visits made	8

Swimming Baths and Pools.

No. of Swimming Baths in the district	1
No. of samples of water taken	1
No. of samples satisfactory	1

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

No. of inspections made	3
No. of contraventions found	0

Water Supply.

No. of samples taken for analysis	13
No. of samples found unsatisfactory	1

HOUSING.

There is still a great deal of delay in getting repairs carried out under the provisions of the Housing Acts due to the demands made on the building trade and it frequently happens that months elapse between the builder receiving instructions from the owner and the commencement of the work.

County Court Appeal.

An appeal against a notice served under Section 9, Housing Act, 1936, was heard before Judge Ernest Evans on 28th March, 1945.

The owner contended that the items of decoration included in the notice, were the responsibility of the tenant and not the owner.

The Judge after hearing the evidence gave a written judgment in our favour.

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or Officers	155
--	-----

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 57 |
| (2) No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By Owners | 16 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | 2 |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 96 |
| (2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By Owners | 85 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | — |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | — |
| (2) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | — |
| (3) No. of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of undertaking given by owner | — |
| (4) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which undertaking from owners accepted, not to re-let house for human habitation | — |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | — |
| (2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | — |

E.—Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| (1) (a) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of | } Not Known. |
| (b) No. of families dwelling therein | |
| (c) No. of persons dwelling therein | |
| (2) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 4 |

- (3) (a) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year —
 (b) No. of persons concerned in such cases —
 (4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding —

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

Milk.

No. of samples taken 1,385, as compared with 1,212 in 1944, and 786 in 1943.

1. School Milks (Pasteurised).

With the exception of the Convent Private School, Grosvenor Road, all Schools are supplied with pasteurised milk.

It will be noted that compared with the previous year there is a big improvement in the number of satisfactory results following the change in management and the installation of new equipment in one of the dairies.

Total number of samples taken	47
Total number of samples satisfactory	36
Total number of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	40
Number found satisfactory	35

Raw Milk.

Twenty-one samples of raw milk were taken and 14 were satisfactory.

2. Designated Milks other than School Milks.

(Pasteurised).

No. of samples taken—100. No. Satisfactory—81.

(Eighty-two samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted to the Phosphatase Test and 78 were satisfactory).

Tuberculin Tested.

No. of samples taken—143. No. satisfactory—84*.

* Laboratory tests were not completed in respect of 5 samples.

The position with regard to T.T. milk was far from satisfactory and our tests revealed that the fault lay at the place of production and not at the local dairy handling this milk. Unfortunately the farm where the milk was produced was outside our jurisdiction and it was some time before the responsible authority effected the necessary improvement.

3. Raw Milks.

No. of samples taken	338
No. satisfactory	263

4. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries—National Milk Testing Scheme.

Total number of samples taken	695
532 in category A. (Good keeping quality).	
107 in category B. (Moderate keeping quality).	
56 in category C. (Poor keeping quality).	

5. Biological Testing for Tubercle Bacilli.

Forty-one samples of milk were taken for the testing of the presence of the Tubercle Bacilli and 3 were returned as positive. The source of the unsatisfactory samples was traced and the animals slaughtered.

6. Rinses of bottles, dairy utensils, etc.

No. of Rinses taken	290
No. satisfactory	166

7. Dairies.

In January, the Committee considered my report on 20 of the dairies situated within the Borough, and after lengthy consideration it was decided that the registration of four be cancelled. In addition, one of our larger dairies has been extended, completely remodelled and a great deal of new equipment installed.

Alterations are also taking place at another of our large dairies including the provision of new sanitary and washing accommodation.

Our third large dairy company has installed a new pasteuriser but the premises leave much to be desired and plans have been prepared for a new building.

Further, one of our smaller dairymen acquired new premises and has installed sterilisers, bottle washers, etc.

The general standard of our dairies has undoubtedly improved considerably but despite this, there are one or two smaller dairies which still require drastic alteration. However, until such time as the legal requirements are more specific or we can persuade the occupiers of the advantages of the improvements needed, there is little we can do.

No. of persons registered	16
No. of premises registered	16
No. of inspections made	252
No. of contraventions found	3
No. of contraventions remedied	3
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	—
No. of Steam Sterilisers installed	1
No. of Mechanical Churn Washers installed	—

8. Cowsheds.

No. of premises registered	23
No. of milch cows in district	340 approx.
No. of inspections made	44
No. of contraventions found	5
No. of contraventions remedied	5
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	Nil.

Meat.

Municipal Abattoir.—The Abattoir continues to be used by the Ministry of Food as a Slaughtering and Meat Distributing Centre serving a population of some 130,000 people. All animals slaughtered at, or distributed through the Abattoir were inspected by a qualified Meat and Foods Inspector, and this throughout necessitates at least one man being full time at this work.

	CATTLE		SHEEP		
	Ex- cluding Cows	COWS	CALVES	AND LAMBS	PIGS
No. Slaughtered.....	2,496	2,270	44,194	9,790	12,581
No. Inspected	2,499	2,276	44,197	9,790	12,582
<i>Disease Except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	11	97	44	13	72
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	756	1,002	2,113	142	62
Percentage of No. inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	28.2%	44.4%	4.84%	1.61%	.88%
<i>Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	13	117	—	21	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	354	1,032	—	641	—
Percentage of No. inspected with Tuberculosis	14.2%	46.37%	—	6.3%	.001%

Other Foods.

Inspection of Foodstuffs other than Milk and Meat.

No. of Fish Inspections	10
No. of Provision Inspections	105
No. of Food Preparation Places Inspected	393
No. of other Food Inspections	32

Quantities of Foodstuffs Condemned.

Every effort is made to prevent waste and all suitable material is used for animal feeding. Certain commodities (e.g., sugar) are sent to refineries for treatment.

Tea	46 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Flour	43lbs.
Pudding & Pancake Mix- ture	42 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Fruit	18lbs.
Cheese	64lbs.	Dried Fruit	1,271 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fish & Fish Cakes....	200 lbs.	Preserves	337 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Sausages	31lbs.	Tinned Foods	5,587 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Confectionery	392 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Sugar Substitute	112lbs.
Mixed Cereal Sweepings		Butter....	20lbs.
	1,122lbs.	Mustard	44 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Dried Milk	341lbs.	Miscellaneous	95 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

Total—9,809 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Food Poisoning.

During the year an outbreak of food poisoning occurred which emphasizes the importance of excluding from any process connected with the handling, transport or preparation of food for human consumption, persons with boils, catarrh or other conditions likely to be a staphylococcal infection. It also serves to stress the importance of absolute cleanliness of habit being observed by all persons engaged in the handling of foodstuffs.

On 28th May, 1945, I received a telephone message from the Sanitary Inspector of Rhyl to the effect that two families showed that the suspected foodstuff was jellied veal which was manufactured in Wrexham. I obtained from the firm who manufactured the jellied veal the list of shops which they had supplied on the vital date and immediately notified the Sanitary Inspectors of the districts concerned. (Colwyn Bay, Conway, Llandudno and Llandudno Junction).

Six cases of poisoning were found at Llandudno but our messages were in time to stop the sale of veal at Conway. No cases were reported from Colwyn Bay or Llandudno Junction.

We made a thorough inspection of the premises where the food was processed and found the methods of storage and manufacture,

etc., quite satisfactory. Tests of the raw material were made at the Pathological Department of the War Memorial Hospital and these indicated nothing unusual.

The Public Health Laboratory at Conway later reported that they had found that the veal sold at Rhyl was heavily contaminated with *Staphylococcus Aureus* (approximately 500,000,000 organisms per gram). This organism is frequently found in the nose and is usually associated with boils, etc. Upon learning of the presence of this specific organism, we examined the staff employed in the processing of this food and nasal swabs were taken from each member. We later learned that the strain of *Staphylococcus Aureus* isolated from the jellied veal was the same as that taken from the nose of the foreman. It is surmised that due to sneezing or by some carelessness in his personal habits, the foreman contaminated the foodstuff when it was prepared.

He has since undergone treatment with instillations of a penicillin solution.

Licensed Premises.

During the year a comprehensive report was submitted on the sanitary accommodation of the licensed premises within the Borough.

There were 55 houses involved and generally the provisions for washing glasses, etc., were fairly satisfactory, but sanitary accommodation was woefully inadequate.

When submitting this report I warned the Committee that owing to shortage of labour and materials it would be some time before all the necessary improvements were effected.

This has been further aggravated by the acute housing shortage and the need to divert labour and materials to the paramount need of providing houses.

Despite this however, some progress has been made and the position at the end of the year was as follows:—

No. of premises adversely reported upon	50
No. where alterations have been completed	4
No. where work is in progress	4
No. where finished plans have been approved but work not yet commenced	14
No. where draft plans have been approved	11

INSPECTION OF SHOPS UNDER SHOPS ACT AND FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Notices served	25
Notices complied with	15

Following our representations, washing accommodation was provided in some instances, but there are still many shops without the necessary sanitary accommodation and washing facilities.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Adulteration, etc.

A total of 86 Formal Samples and 6 Informal Samples were taken under the provisions of this Act during the year.

The articles sampled were as follows:—

<i>Formal.</i>		<i>Informal.</i>	
Milk	82	Cake Mixture	1
Pudding Mixture	1	Pudding Mixture	1
Rum	1	Baking Powder	1
Gin	2	Vinegar.....	1
		Tonic Wine.....	1
		Whisky.....	1

Legal Proceedings.

<i>Nature of Offence.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1. Extraneous Water	Fine £3, Costs £1/19/0—£4/19/0d.
2. Bottling on Unregistered Premises and Adultera- tion of Milk	Fine £11, Costs £2/12/0—£13/12/0d.
3. Deficiency of Fat	Fine £7, Costs £2/12/0—£9/12/0d.
4. Adulteration of Gin (case heard early 1946)	Fine £3/3/0, Costs £2/12/0—£9/4/3d.
5. An information against a milk vendor for selling milk deficient in fat was dismissed.	
6. Another information against a milk vendor for selling milk deficient in fat was dismissed but as an important principle was involved the Committee decided to lodge an Appeal which has not yet been decided.	

I am indebted to Mr. B. Wynne Griffiths, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the following information of the operation of the Act within the Borough, by the County Authorities.

<i>Article.</i>	<i>No. Taken.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not Genuine.</i>
Milk	31	22	9
Pepper	1	1	—
Baking Powder	1	1	—
Vinegar	1	1	—
Soda Water	1	—	1
Flour	1	1	—
Beer	1	1	—
Gin	2	2	—
Tonic Wine	1	1	—
Jam	1	1	—
Tea	1	1	—
Sausages	1	1	—
Tinned Beans	1	1	—
Ice Cream	3	3	—
Totals	47	37	10

Five samples of milk were slightly below the standard for solid-not-fat and four slightly below in fat. In no instance was any added water present.

A sample of Soda Water was rather low in Sodium Bi-Carbonate.

All other samples were genuine, and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

